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SIPDIS

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SUBJECT: EL SALVADOR: WE'RE WITH COLOMBIA

REF: STATE 77205

Classified By: The Ambassador, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[¶1.](#) (C) MFA Director General for Foreign Policy Werner Romero told PolCouns July 23 that El Salvador had and would continue to support Colombia in its struggle against the FARC. "You don't really need to ask us to; we're already doing it," Romero said, noting two upcoming events where the GOES plans to support publicly the GOC's efforts, an Ibero-American seminar on South-South cooperation to be held in Cali the last week of July, and a Summit on Illicit Drugs to be held in Cartagena July 30-August 1. Foreign Minister Argueta will attend the Cali Ibero-American seminar and plans to meet Colombian FM Bermudez. Romero said the GOES was considering extending an invitation to Bermudez to visit El Salvador.

[¶2.](#) (C) Comment: While we are confident the GOES will continue to express strong support for Colombia and condemn the FARC at every opportunity, Romero acknowledged the GOES, as a close ally of Colombia, had limited ability to influence those countries supporting or harboring the FARC.
GLAZER